10/070007
JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 FEB 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:			
	Ward et al.	Group Art Unit:	not assigned
Serial No.:	not assigned	Examiner:	not Assigned
Filed:	February 27, 2002		
For:	TRUNCATED EGF RECEPTOR		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, BOX PCT, Washington DC 20231

February 28, 2002 — Nina Reel
Date

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This amendment accompanies a filing of a U.S. National Stage application under 35 U.S.C. 371. Filing fees for the National Stage application have been calculated based on this amendment.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-22 and enter the following new claims 23-57.

--23. A truncated epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) ectodomain, the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacking a substantial portion of a CR2 domain such that the truncated EGFR ectodomain has an increased binding affinity for at least one EGFR ligand when compared to the full length EGFR ectodomain.

24. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23, wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain has an increased binding affinity for EGF and/or TGF-α.

25. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks at least the third to seventh modules of the CR2 domain.

26. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks at least the third to seventh modules of the CR2 domain.

27. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks at least the second to seventh modules of the CR2 domain.

28. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks at least the second to seventh modules of the CR2 domain.

29. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 27 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain further lacks a portion of the first module of the CR2 domain.

30. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 28 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain further lacks a portion of the first module of the CR2 domain.

31. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks residues 514-621.

32. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks residues 514-621.

33. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks residues 502-621.

34. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain lacks residues 502-621.

35. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain comprises the L1, CR1 and L2 subdomains.

36. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain comprises the L1, CR1, and L2 subdomains.

37. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain comprises residues 1-492 of the EGFR ectodomain.

38. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain comprises residues 1-492 of the EGFR ectodomain.

39. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain comprises residues 1-501 or residues 1-513 of the EGFR ectodomain.

40. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain comprises residues 1-501 or residues 1-513 of the EGFR ectodomain.

41. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain has an affinity for EGF such that the Kd is less than 30 nM.

42. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain has an affinity for EGF such that the Kd is less than 30 nM.

43. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain has an affinity for TGF-α such that the Kd is less than 45 nM.

44. The truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain has an affinity for TGF-α such that the Kd is less than 45 nM.

45. A polynucleotide encoding the truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23.

46. An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 45.

47. A host cell comprising the expression vector as claimed in claim 46.

48. A chimeric or fusion construct comprising the truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23.

49. A chimeric or fusion construct comprising the truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 24.

50. The chimeric of fusion construct as claimed in claim 48 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain is conjugated to an immunoglobulin constant domain.

51. The chimeric of fusion construct as claimed in claim 49 wherein the truncated EGFR ectodomain is conjugated to an immunoglobulin constant domain.

52. A method for producing a truncated EGFR ectodomain, the method comprising culturing the host cell as claimed in claim 47 under conditions which allow production of the truncated EGFR ectodomain and isolating the truncated EGFR ectodomain.

53. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

54. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the chimeric or fusion construct as claimed in claim 48 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

55. A method of screening a putative compound for the ability to modulate the activity of the EGF receptor, the method comprising exposing the putative compound to the truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23 and monitoring the activity of the truncated EGFR ectodomain.

56. A method of treating or preventing a disease associated with signalling by a molecule of the EGF receptor family in a subject, the method comprising administering to the subject the truncated EGFR ectodomain as claimed in claim 23.

57. The method as claimed in claim 56 wherein the disease associated with signalling by a molecule of the EGF receptor family is selected from psoriasis and tumour states

comprising but not restricted to cancer of the breast, brain, ovary, cervix, pancreas, lung, head and neck, and melanoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, mesothelioma and glioblastoma.--

REMARKS

The claims of the international application have been replaced to correct formalities. Claims that were dependent upon multiple dependent claims have been replaced. This amendment is not intended to change the scope of the claims.

With the entry of this Amendment, this case contains a total of 35 claims of which one is independent.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is due with the submission of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if this is incorrect, please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No.:	10/070,007	:	Examiner: not Assigned
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, BOX PCT, Washington DC 20231

March 29, 2002 — Nina Reel
Date — Nina Reel

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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

In the specification:

Please insert the following as the first paragraph of the specification:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a National Stage Application of PCT International Application No. PCT/AU00/00782, filed on June 28, 2001 which claims priority to Australian Patent Application No. PQ8418, filed on June 28, 2000, both of which are incorporated herein, by reference, in their entirety.--

REMARKS

The application has been amended to claim priority to related patents under 37 C.F.R. 1.78.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is due with the submission of this Second Preliminary Amendment. However, if this is incorrect, please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,

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